

SOME  
CONSIDERATIONS  
UPON A  
*PAMPHLET,*  
INTITULED, A  
DECLARATION  
OF THE  
*Congregational Ministers,*  
In and about *London,*  
AGAINST  
Antinomian Errors, and Ignorant  
and Scandalous Persons, intruding  
themselves into the Ministry.

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*Parturiunt montes nascitur ridiculus mus.*

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L O N D O N :

Printed in the Year 1698.



( 1 )

S O M E

# Considerations

U P O N A

## P A M P H L E T,

E N T I T L E D, A

# DECLARATION

O F T H E

## Congregational Ministers, &c.

*Whereas this Pamphlet is pretended to be set forth by the Congregational Ministers in and about London: For Vindication of those Reverend and Learned Divines, from being the Authors of so weak and inconsiderable a Piece, these few Reasons are humbly offered, to discover the Improbability of its being compos'd by them.*

### R E A S O N I.

**T**HERE is no Account given of the Names, either of the Printer, Publisher, or Author, which are usually prefix'd to Publick Declarations; especially of such celebrated

A 2

Men



Men, who can by no means be conceived industriously to have concealed their Names, as if they were Midwifing into the World some **Heterodox** Paper.

## R E A S O N II.

According to the Congregational Principles, their Ministers have no Power to make Declarations of this Nature, without the Consent of their respective Churches, whose Approbation it is most evident they had not, by the very Title-Page and Preface; wherein they make no more mention of their Churches, than if they stood in no Relation to any, or were as absolute Rulers over them, as those they condemn for *Presbyterians*; who would wish them to remember their old avowed Principle.

That it is an high Ineroachment upon the priviledges of Churches for the Ministers to act in Church-matters distinct from their people, as appears by the Elders at the **Savoy**, sitting there as *Messengers* of the Congregational Churches, **pag. 1.** of the Pamphlet.

R E A S O N

## R E A S O N    I I I .

The greatest part of the opposition that is made against the **Detestable Antinomian Errors** is drawn from the Writings of Good Men long since Dead ; many of whom were unknown to the most of the Congregational Ministers now living ; besides, that those there quoted were never charged with those Errors. This weak way of Opposition and Vindication, is utterly inconsistent with the reputed Learning of the **Eminent Ministers of the congregational persuasion**, each one of whom would have been excited by their **own Reason** to have opposed these Errors, and vindicated themselves and their Churches, rather than to have got help from dead Men, or to go down to whet their Weapons at the Forge of one, whom formerly they accounted a **Philistine** ; though now they can own him for a **Learned Divine**.

R E A S O N

## R E A S O N IV.

Some of the Congregational Ministers have declared they never saw the Book, till it was published, and they look not upon this **Pamphlet** as a Vindication of Independants from the Charge of **Antinomianism**, &c. since the Errors here pretended to be confuted, are such as were never charged upon the **Congregational Ministers**, nor is it known who will own them (these not being the Errors laid upon them by the **Reverend Mr. Williams**, and **Mr. Alsop**) but rather seem to be so many Men of Straw, set up by some idle Persons, only for the Itch of knocking them down again.

## R E A S O N V.

In this Pamphlet **National Churches** are own'd for **true Churches**, as that of **Holland, Scotland, &c.** (page 61.) Now it is well known, the Independants separate from all National Churches, pretending none to be right Churches but their own particular Congregations; which they must condemn for so many **Schismatical**



**matical Conventicles, or Excre-**  
**scies** from true Churches, if they  
 own other Churches for true ones.  
 Now it is highly improbable, that any  
 Independants would ever countenance  
 such a severe Censure of themselves.  
 Therefore by this alone it may appear,  
 how these **Divines** have been injured by  
 intituling this Pamphlet to them.

**Finally,** It should seem improbable, that  
 the **Reverend Congregational Mi-**  
**nisters** are the Authors of this Pamphlet;  
**Because** some time since, a Book with  
 the like Title, professing much the same  
 Design, was published by one **Crepidant-**  
**tium Halleus**, to which this looks like  
 a Second Part; it being for Strength of  
 Argument, Accuracy of Expression, Soli-  
 dity of Matter, and Number of Quota-  
 tions, so much of a piece with the other,  
 that it may well be suspected for the re-  
 peated Product of the same distempered  
 Brain, which delights it self in vain Jang-  
 ling and Censures, as appears by his Ex-  
 crementitious Vitiligation against the  
**most Reverend Mr. B—r**, a Fling  
 at whom you'll find in the Preface to this  
*empty* Pamphlet. Upon all these weigh-  
**ty Considerations**, before you take up  
 a Be-

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a Belief that so inconsiderable a Scribble  
was composed by so many Reverend  
Heads ( as Mr. **Crepidantium Mat-**  
**leus** has it.)

*Consider of it, take Advice, and speak  
your Minds.*

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**F I N I S.**

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JUL 19 1955

Fund

Fellowes

Collation

- 1] A<sup>4</sup>B-E<sup>8</sup>F<sup>2</sup>
- 2] A<sup>4</sup>

1] London. Ministers

2] Title

Author

Rare Book  
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G5  
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